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ABSTRACT

Noting that kindergarten is a time of dramatic change for parents as well as for the kindergarten child, this book presents information on a variety of topics related to kindergarten education. The book is based on interviews with kindergarten teachers, principals, parents, and several experts from higher education involved in kindergarten education. It introduces some of the decisions parents need to make and provides information to help them prepare their child and themselves for the transition. Arranged alphabetically, the topics discussed are: (1) age-appropriate behavior; (2) art; (3) before- and after-school programs; (4) bilingual education; (5) choosing a school; (6) classrooms; (7) computers; (8) curriculum; (9) daily schedule; (10) discipline; (11) first-day jitters; (12) friends; (13) gender; (14) gifted children; (15) homeschooling; (16) homework; (17) kindergarten readiness; (18) learning; (19) math; (20) multicultural education; (21) music; (22) nonpublic schools; (23) parent conferences; (24) parental involvement; (25) physical education; (26) play; (27) principals; (28) public school; (29) reading; (30) report cards; (31) science; (32) social studies; (33) special needs children; (34) teachers; (35) testing; (36) writing; and (37) the zen of kindergarten. Appended is a description of the signs of a good kindergarten classroom, a list of 52 resources, and a list of 16 national organizations related to kindergarten education. (KB)

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